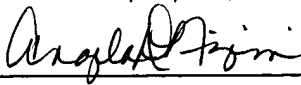


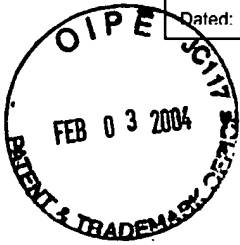
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail Label No.: ER 535435845 US, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Sequence, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: February 4, 2004

Signature:



Docket No.: 55491-20008.00  
(PATENT)



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

Christopher D. ROBERTS, et al.

Group Art Unit: 1623

Application No.: 10/676,956

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: September 30, 2003

Confirmation No. : 1045

For: NUCLEOSIDE DERIVATIVES FOR TREATING  
HEPATITIS C VIRUS INFECTION

**STATEMENT TO SUPPORT FILING AND SUBMISSION IN ACCORDANCE  
WITH 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.821 – 1.825**

Mail Stop Sequence  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Notification to Comply with Requirements for Patent Applications Containing Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures mailed December 15, 2003, the undersigned hereby states that the content of the attached paper copy of the sequence listing and computer readable copy of the sequence listing submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.821-1.825, are identical. The submission includes no new matter.

Applicants request consideration and entry of the Sequence Listing paper copy and computer readable copy. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.77, please enter the paper copy of the Sequence Listing after the Abstract.

In the unlikely event that the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required as a result of this statement, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due to our Deposit Account No. 50-2859,

referencing docket number 55491-20008.00. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: February 4, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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